

HB 2625 -- MEDICAL MARIJUANA

SPONSOR: Neely

Current law allows people with intractable epilepsy to possess and use hemp extract to treat their condition. This act allows people with serious conditions, as defined in the bill, to use medical marijuana.

Under current law, the Department of Health and Senior Services must issue a registration card to a person who provides a statement signed by a neurologist that the person suffers from intractable epilepsy and may benefit from treatment with hemp extract. This act provides that the department must issue a registration card to a person who provides a certification that the person suffers from a serious condition and may benefit from treatment with medical marijuana. The certification must be signed by a practitioner who is qualified to and will continue to treat the condition. The certification must also provide the form of marijuana the patient should consume, including the method of consumption and the appropriate dosage.

This act specifies that possession of or application for a registration card does not constitute probable cause to search the person or property of the person.

Under this act, the department is required to maintain a confidential list of people with registration cards. The list is confidential except in certain specified circumstances.

Registrants must possess a form of medical marijuana that complies with the practitioner's certification.

A registrant may possess up to a 30-day supply of the medical marijuana dosage certified by the practitioner. During the last seven days of the 30-day period, the registrant may possess a 30-day supply for the following month as well.

This act specifies certain provisions regarding seizure of medical marijuana, the liability of people being near the medical use of marijuana, and the rights of registrants with regard to routine traffic stops and employment.

The act provides that the fraudulent misrepresentation to an officer of any fact relating to the use of products containing medical marijuana in order to avoid arrest is a class D misdemeanor.

This act prohibits a licensed medical marijuana grower from obtaining marijuana from outside the state, employing felons, and selling medical marijuana without verifying the validity of the buyer's registration card. Growers must clearly label marijuana products.

This bill is similar to SB 912 (2016).